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PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNAG RUEHNH
DE RUEHKO #0606 0780051
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1599
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHMMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHMMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 3050
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 5390
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 0812
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 3594
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 6842
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 8332
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RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 4357
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4252
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SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - NORTH KOREA

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Front-page items on Thursday morning included an announcement on Wednesday by the Japanese government that it has reached an agreement with the Ukraine government to purchase Ukraine's 30 million tons of greenhouse gas emission rights.

¶2. "North Korea Refuses U.S. Food Aid" The moderate Yomiuri's correspondent report from Washington said (3/19): "DOS Acting Spokesperson Wood told reporters on Tuesday that North Korea has notified the U.S. of its rejection of food aid from the U.S.... North Korea, which is making preparations for a ballistic missile launch by claiming it is a satellite, appears to have taken a tougher line toward the U.S., which is calling for a halt to the firing."

¶3. "Information Control Rather than Food?" The liberal Tokyo Shimbun wrote from Seoul (3/19): "North Korea's rejection of U.S. food aid will further harden Washington's attitude toward Pyongyang. There is the view that Pyongyang made the move to prevent information about the nation from leaking out of the country through individuals monitoring food aid distribution activities."

ZUMWALT